

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 01135 231652Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 /016 W
----- 038970

R 231430Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO COMCRUDESGRU TWELVE
USS LEAHY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8687
SECDEF WASHDC
JCS WASHDC
CNO WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
DNI WASHDC
COMNAVINTCOM ALEXVA
CHINFO
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK
CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA
COMNAVSURFLANT NORFOLK VA
COMSIXTHFLT
COMSECONDFLT
AMMBBASSY MOSCOW 1690

UNCLAS HESINKI 1135

PERSONAL FOR FONGILLE AND SINCLAIR FROM AMBASSADOR
AUSTAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJ: US NAVAL PORT VISIT TO HELSINKI

1. IN THE WAKE OF THE RECENT VISIT OF COMCRUDESGRU
TWELVE AND USS LEAHY TO HELSINKI, I WISH TO EXTEND MY
PERSONAL APPRECIATION AND "WELL DONE" TO YOU TWO
GENTLEMEN, AS WELL AS TO ALL OFFICERS AND MEN WITHIN
YOUR RESPECTIVE COMMANDS.

2. THIS WAS A PARTICULARLY PROPITIOUS TIME FOR IN-
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CREASING THE US PROFILE IN FINALND-- NOT ONLY TO RE-

EMPHASIZE LONG STANDING FINNISH-AMERICAN GOODWILL, BUT FOR VERY SENSITIVE POLITICAL REASONS THE US NAVY HAS A LONG AND HONORED HISTORY OF SHOWING THE FLAG, AS BOTH A DISPLAY OF MILITARY POWER AND AS A VIABLE SIGN OF COOPERATION, SUPPORT AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN TWO FRIENDLY NATIONS. THIS LATTER MISSION YOU SUCCESSFULLY ACCOMPLISHED IN THE HIGHEST TRADITION OF THE NAVAL SERVICE.

3. YOUR VISIT TO HELSINKI WAS FORMALLY CATAGORIZED AS AN UNOFFICIAL VISIT. HOWEVER, THE PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, DR.URHO KEKKONEN; OTHER HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ; AS WELL AS THE HGIHEST LEVELS OF DEFENSE AND THE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL COMMUNITIES STAND IN STARK CONTRAST TO ALL OTHER RECENT MILITARY VISITS TO FINLAND REGARDLESS OF NATIONALITY.

4. THE ABILITY OF YOU AND YOUR MEN TO REACT AND IMPROVISE TO A VERY FLUID SITUATION PROVED TO BE A KEY FACTOR IN THE SUCCESS OF THIS VISIT. I TOOK PARTICULAR PRIDE IN WATCHING OFFICERS AND MEN ALIKE PRESENTING THEMSELVES TO NOT ONLY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, BUT THE COMMON PEOPLE WITH EQUAL ENTHUSIASM. YOUR PERSONAL EFFORTS, PROFESSIONAL BEARING AND DEDICATED ATTITUDES WILL LONG ENDURE IN FINLAND AND HAVE GREATLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE ABILITY OF MY STAFF AND I TO ACCOMPLISH OUR ASSIGNED MISSION. ALL OF YOU CAN TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN THE FACT THAT YOU EARNED THE RESPECT AND FRIENDSHIP OF THE FINNISH PEOPLE NOT ONLY FOR YOUR PARTICULAR SERVICE, BUT FOR YOUR COUNTRY AS WELL. GOD'S SPEED AND RETURN AGAIN SOON.
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